

Official indoor base ball guide containing the constitution, 1904

SPALDING'S Official INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE 1904

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GEORGE W. HANCOCK, " Father of Indoor Base Ball."

Constitution, By-Laws and Playing Rules

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INDOOR BASE BALL

INDOOR BASE BALL ORIGIN OF GAME The game of indoor base ball was invented in Chicago in 1887. Members of the Farragut Boat Club had assembled in the gymnasium hall on Thanksgiving day of that year and an old boxing glove was carelessly thrown around the room. One of the boys took up a broom and batted the glove back to the thrower, when George W. Hancock suddenly exclaimed, "Say, boys, let's play ball!" Thereupon the huge wrestling mat was hauled around to answer for a diamond and a lively game of "scrub" took place, the broom-handle having been broken off and used for the bat and the unwieldy boxing glove taking the place of a ball. It proved great fun and at its conclusion Mr. Hancock gathered the members around him and unfolded a plan which had occurred to him as the players were sliding around the hall. "I believe this affair can be worked into a regular game of base ball which can be played indoors, and if you all come down Saturday night I'll make up some rules and have a ball and bat which will suit the purpose of the sport and do no damage to the surroundings." And so, on the night announced, two teams were chosen, and Mr. Hancock read the rules he had made up to suit the surroundings and presented to the gaze of the assembled members the huge ball and small rubber-tipped bat which have since been identified with the game. The contest was one of the funniest performances ever witnessed and members and visitors went away loud in their praises of "Indoor Base Ball," as the new sport was christened.

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THE GAMES PROGRESS

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. '15 result was much smaller figures and more on the profes- sional basis of base ball, until now, with numerous clubs and leagues all over the country, the game has reached a scientific standpoint hitherto unsuspected of fulfilment. It can be played in any hall of size which will permit of sufficient light and room for the diamond and fielding, the composition of the floor being immaterial, as the rubber- soled shoes required to be worn will allow running on even the waxed floor of a dancing hall. About the smallest size for a playing floor is 40 x 50 feet. A larger surface will, of course, allow greater freedom for fielding and running. The spectators are usually placed in the right and left field, on either side of the catcher's territory, and in galleries, according to the construction of the room used for play. At first the sport was confined to a few of the social clubs of Chicago, which had organized a league, but of late years great strides have been made toward having the game spread all over the United States. Many of the Chicago clubs have made trips to cities East and West and played indoor ball before large crowds of spectators, who had become initiated in the sport, and consequently extremely interested, for it is said of indoor ball that it is the most exciting sport which the winter i lonths give us, for, the space allotted for play usually being somewhat confined, the' spectators and players are at no great dis- tance from each other, and the rapid action is of a very exciting nature. Some excellent players have been developed, especially among amateurs. Several professionals have tried their hand, but find themselves outclassed by the more nimble amateurs, as agility rather than strength enters largely into the sport. In playing the indoor game, ordinary base ball suits are the

proper dress, except that the spiked shoes are done away with and rubber-soled ones used instead. At the knee and hip the trousers should be thickly padded, as

SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 17 contact with the floor at these points is a common occurrence. A different style of play is noticeable in the successful indoor player from that adopted outdoors. In sliding to bases there must be perfect abandon, and, sliding well around the bag, the arm can be thrust out in passing and the base held. In batting, the ball can be bunted successfully, and, as the first contact with the floor decides its fairness, this feature is one practiced by many of the best players. Still, it must not be supposed that long hits cannot be made, for many home runs have been credited on drives that are astonishing in their force. The short stops usually play close to the batter-about ten feet, one on either side of the pitcher, for in the indoor game, the right fielder comes into the diamond and takes the position known as "right short." The umpires' duties are rather difficult, as the quick play and closeness to the players oftentimes actually prevent their seeing the action, but in case one is unable to judge the other may be appealed to. It is surprising to note the expertness with which girls also can play the game after short practice. Many of the schools have leagues for girls' clubs and under proper training they develop wonderful playing, their contests being highly interesting though of necessity the number of spectators is more limited. Indoor base ball is a pleasant, agreeable and moderate sport. It has delighted thousands and incidentally developed an increasing interest in the outdoor game so closely are the two allied. It has emerged from what was at first termed a "fad" to a well-balanced, exciting sport, and there no longer can be any doubt that it has come to take its proper place among such games as foot ball, cricket, tennis and golf.

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HINTS ON PITCHING

ADVANCEMENT OF INDOOR BASE BALL

SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 25 ADVANCEMENT OF INDOOR BASE BALL BY R. L. WELCH, President of the National Indoor Base Ball Association. Reports submitted at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Indoor Base Ball Association held at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Chicago, November 4, 1903, showed the game has reached beyond the experimental stage and is now one of the established winter sports, and is gaining every season in popularity. Gigantic strides have been made in the past five years, and where the sport was formerly confined to Chicago and vicinity with a few hundred teams playing the game, now the game is being played in every State in the Union and throughout the southern portion of Canada with thousands of teams enjoying the sport. The growth of the game is truly remarkable considering the handicap it has had to contend with. The main obstacle being the scarcity of good halls in which to play, as it is necessary to have a hall large enough to lay out the diamond and still have plenty of room for the fielders and spectators, while the floor must be fairly hard and smooth and the room well lighted. The proper halls are not so difficult to find as to secure, as the owners as a rule are not over anxious to rent their halls for base ball on account of the damage they figure a game will do to their property and it is generally useless to try and explain that a game will not mar the hall any more than an ordinary dance. The result is that the best halls, both from a scientific and financial standpoint, cannot be secured and clubs are often obliged to play in halls that are either poorly located or poorly lighted or both. As a con-

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A TREATISE ON INDOOR BASEBALL

A TREATISE ON INDOOR BASE BALL BY C. G. SINSABAUGH, OF THE CHICAGO DAILY NEWS. Indoor base ball can be indirectly traced to pugilism. If there had not been such a sport as prize fighting there would have been no such game as indoor base ball, for George Hancock, popularly accredited the father of the game, would not have picked up an old boxing glove and tossed it at a fellow member who happened to be standing in the Farragut Boat Club gymnasium with a broomstick in his hand. From this small start the game originated, and since that time it has grown out of its swaddling clothes, until now it is the recognized winter sport of those base ball enthusiasts who are not content to remain passive during the winter months. The game has always been popular, and at the start of the 1903-1904 season prospects are that it will be played extensively throughout the United States and Canada. The game has grown to such an extent that now it is as popular outside of Chicago as it is in its birthplace, which is saying a great deal, for enthusiasm for indoor base ball is at fever heat in the city that produced the World's Fair. The National Indoor Base Ball Association promises to do a power of good for the sport. There are many little things, as well as big ones, that interest the country at large and can only be looked after by such a parent body. It needs just such an association to do missionary work and spread the gospel of indoor base ball. That Chicago

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IMPLEMENTS OF THE GAME

IMPLEMENTS OF THE GAME. THE BALL. The ball will be found to possess properties of a peculiar nature, which, after careful experimenting, have been proved to be best adapted to the sport. It is of a compact substance, 17 inches in circumference, weighs 8 ounces, has a white cover, and, while lively, it is so made as to do no damage to objects surrounding the field. THE BAT. The limit of size of the bat is 2% feet long and 1Ys inches in diameter at the largest part. The weight is not limited, but the material used is wood possessing great strength, as accidents are liable to occur should the bat break. Bats of different qualities of wood are made so that selections as to style and weight may be made according to individual taste. THE BASES. - The bases are half filled with sand or other heavy substance, so they will remain in place on the floor, unless grasped by the player in running or sliding to the base. They are made of white canvas, 1/ feet square, and are not attached to the floor, but placed loosely on a marked spot to which it should be returned whenever displaced. The home base is of rubber, one foot each way, and is also placed on a marked square. SUITS. Each club should be properly uniformed with natty suits, consisting of shirt, knee pants, stockings, belt, and shoes.

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CONSTITUTION

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CONSTITUTION. ARTICLE I. NAME AND OBJECTS. This organization shall be known as the NATIONAL INDOOR BASE BALL ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

The objects of the Association are: 1. To perpetuate indoor base ball as the national winter game of the United States and to surround it with such safeguards as to warrant for the future absolute public confidence in its integrity and methods. 2. To protect and promote the mutual interests of indoor base ball clubs and players. ARTICLE II.

MEMBERSHIP. Any indoor base ball league in the United States may become a member of this Association on written application to the Secretary of the Association, signed by the President and Secretary, accompanied by documents showing that said club is regularly organized and officered, and shall be entitled to one representative, to have a vote in the election of officers and a voice in the affairs of the Association. ?12~~ ~ARTICLE III.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. (1) By resignation, duly accepted by two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee. (2) Allowing open betting or pool selling in any hall in which the game is played (3) Playing any game of ball with a club that has been disqualified,

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUJDE. 41 (4) Offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any game of ball, or failing to immediately expel any player who shall he proven guilty of offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any game of ball, or of being interested in any wager thereon. (5) Disbandment of its organization or team during the playing season. (6) Failing or refusing to comply with any lawful requirement of the Executive Committee. (7) Wilfully violating any provision of the Constitution or the legislation or playing rules in pursuance thereof. ARTICLE IV. EXPULSION OF CLUBS AND OFFICERS, (1) To carry into effect the provision of Clause 6, Article III., of this Constitution, the facts in any case, covered by such sec- tion must be reported to the Secretary of the Association, who shall at once notify, by mail or telegraph, the party charged with the offense, inquiring whether any dispute exists as to the facts alleged. In case the facts are disputed, the Executive Committee shall, after due notice, try the

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case under such regulations as they may prescribe, and their finding shall be final and conclusive on all parties. (2) Any member holding a position in this Association, either as an officer or a member of a committee, who shall be charged in writing by three executive officers of this Association with malfeasance in office, or with conduct prejudicial to the interest of the Association, may be suspended by the President pending an investigation of the charge. (3) Any officer or member against whom charges have been preferred, as above, shall be furnished with a copy of the charge, and shall be heard in his own defense before the Executive Committee. And if found guilty of the charges preferred, may be reprimanded, suspended for a specified time, removed from his position or expelled from the Association.

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si sations as they may deem necessary for the govcylltllll V1 11, o Association on matters not determined by the By-Laws-or

SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 45 special action of the Association, and may force a due observ- ance of the same by such action, as in the opinion of the Executive Committee the welfare of the Association may render necessary.or advisable. They shall have general charge of affairs, fund and property of the Association, and shall have power to expend such sums of money as may be necessary for the proper maintenance of the Association and the discharge of its debts and obligations. The Executive Committee shall have power to receive and act upon all resignations of members, officers or directors. Any officer or director of the Association desiring to resign shall present his resignation to the Executive Committee in writing. ARTICLE VII. The Secretary, upon the written request of a member of the Executive Committee, or three members of the Association, shall submit any question to a vote of the Executive Com- mittee. Within five days after the vote on the question, he shall mail to each member of the Association the question and the result of the vote. ARTICLE VIII

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AMENDMENTS. (1) The Constitution of this Association may be altered or amended by a three-fourths vote of the Executive Committee, providing such alterations or amendments have been submitted in writing, together with the name of the member proposing it. (2) Any section of this Constitution may be suspended or its provisions made non-applicable 'by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.

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ORGANIZATION OF LEAGUES

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 49 Another point to which careful attention should be given is the selection of officials. See that competent and impartial umpires and scorers are secured, and that the scores are turned over to the secretary after each game, so that the average of the players can be kept, as they are very interesting to both the public and the players. See that the umpire gets the respect due him, back him up in his official acts, and do not countenance continual kicking by the players. 1 5 Last, but not least, see that your press committee keep the press supplied with information concerning the affairs of the league and secure advertising wherever possible. The following is practically a copy of 'the Constitution of the Chicago Cyclists' Indoor Base Ball League, and has worked smoothly for the past four or five years. Is'

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 51 CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS. ARTICLE I. NAME. This organization shall be known as the INDOOR BASE BALL LEAGUE. ARTICLE II. OBJECTS. To promote the game of indoor base ball among the

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clubs of ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP. The membership of this league shall consist of clubs from the recognized clubs of ARTICLE IV. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. The membership of any club may be terminated- (1) By resignation, duly excepted by a three-fourths vote of all the clubs in meeting duly convened. (2) Allowing open betting or pool selling at a game, or in room in which game is played. (3) Playing any game of ball with a club that has been dis- qualified. (4) Allowing any player to play on team that has been expelled by the League or any club thereof. (5) Offering, agreeing, conspiring, or attempting to lose any game of ball or of being interested in any pool or wager thereon. (6) Failing or refusing to comply with any lawful require- ments of the Board of Directors. (7) Wilfully violating any provision of the Constitution or the legislation or playing rules in pursuance thereof.

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 53 ARTICLE V. EXPULSION OF CLUBS. Any club is liable to expulsion that fails to live up to the Constitution; the facts in any case must be reported at once to the Secretary, who shall at once notify the party charged with the offense, inquiring whether any dispute exists as to the facts alleged. In case the facts are disputed, the Board of Directors shall, after due notice, try the case under such regulation as they prescribe, and their finding shall be final and conclusive. ARTICLE VI. Each club shall file with the secretary on or before the day of registration of each player, accompanied by the necessary fee, and shall deposit with the secretary \$25.00 cash, same to be forfeited on expulsion or with- drawal of club. A special assessment may be levied by the Board of Directors to cover any deficit that may exist. ARTICLE VII. IMPOSING OF FINES. Upon conviction of any violation of the Constitution or By- Laws, the Board of Directors may, in the first instance, as a preliminary to or in lieu of expulsion, impose such a fine as is in their judgment commensurate with the injury, which fine may include a penalty payable to any other club or clubs, as an equivalent for damage sustained, or payable to the League, to be disposed of as the Board of Directors

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see fit. The Arbitration Committee shall have the power to impose such fine on any club or player reported for violation of the Constitution or playing rules, as in their judgment the case warrants. ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS. Each club of the League shall be entitled to two (2) delegates to the League . which

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 57 necessary for the government of the League on matters not determined by the By-Laws or special action of the League, and may enforce a due observance of the same by such actions as in the opinion of the Board of Directors the welfare of the League may render necessary or advisable. They shall have power to receive and act upon all resignations of members, officers, and directors. Any officer or director of the League desiring to resign shall present his resignation to the Board in writing. ARTICLE XII. PROTESTS. All protests shall be settled by an Arbitration Committee of five, to be appointed by the Board of Directors, and must not be connected with any team or club of this League. All protests must be in writing and in the hands of the Secretary within forty-eight (48) hours after the game. Protests must be accompanied by a fee of \$5.00. ARTICLE XIII. UMPIRES AND THEIR DUTIES. A staff of League umpires shall be selected by a chief of umpires (chief of umpires to be selected by the delegates), who will have full charge of same and direct them when and where to officiate, and shall pay them their salaries. He shall furnish umpires with proper credentials to show that they are duly authorized to officiate. (1) It shall be the duty of the umpire to enforce the rules as they are written, regardless of his personal opinion as to their merit. (2) The umpire is sole and absolute judge of play. In no instance (under penalty of fine, to be imposed by Arbitration Committee), shall any person, except the captains of the competing teams, be allowed to address him or question his decision, and they can only question him on an interpretation of the rules. No manager or any other officer of either club shall be permitted to go on the field or address the umpire under a penalty of

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a forfeiture of a game. (3) Before the commencement of a game, the umpire of the game shall see that the rules governing all the materials of the game are strictly observed.

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 65 ARTICLE XXVII.

AMENDMENTS. The Constitution of the League may be altered or amended by a three-fourths vote of all the delegates present at any regular or special meeting of the League called for that purpose, provided such alterations or amendments have been submitted in writing and entered on the minutes, together with the name of the person-proposing it, at a previous meeting of the League. Any section of the Constitution may be suspended or its provisions made non-applicable by unanimous vote at a League meeting.

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HANCOCK'S INDOOR BASE BALL RULES

HANCOCK'S INDOOR BASE BALL RULES !. s AS REVISED AND ADOPTED BY THE national Indoor Base Ball IAssociation OF THE UNITED STATES RULE I. The diamond is laid at one end of the hall, leaving room for the catcher, who always plays close behind the batsman. The bases (except the home plate) are 1/2 feet rl ~ square, made of canvas, half filled with sand or other similar substance. The home plate is of rubber and is one foot square. Each side of, the diamond is 27 feet long, and a base is placed in each corner and need not be fastened to the floor. The distance from home to second base, and from first to third base is 38l feet. The pitcher's box is 7 x 3 feet, with line drawn across box 18 inches from rear end, to be marked with chalk or some apparatus on the floor, the nearest line of said box to be 22 feet from the centre of home base. The batsman's box (one to the left and one to the right of the home base) shall be four feet long and three feet wide, extending one foot in front of and three feet behind a centre line through the home base, with its nearest side distant six inches from the home base, the outlines to be marked on the floor. When a game is played in a large armory or other large building the diamond may be laid out with 45 feet base lines, the front line of the pitcher's box to be 30 feet from ~} ~ the centre of the home plate. All other dimensions to be the same as when using the 27 feet base lines.

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. ...71 RULE II. THE FOUL LINE. The foul lines must be drawn in straight lines from the outer corner of the home base, along the; outer edge of the first and third bases to the boundaries of the ground, so that the bases shall come within the diamond. RULE III. THE BALL. The ball must be not less than l634 nor more than l74 inches in circumference, made of a yielding substance, not less than 8 nor more than 8'2 ounces in weight, and cov- ered with a white skin; should it become ripped or torn during a game, a new one must be substituted. The Spalding Red Seam Ball was adopted as the official ball of this Association, and must be stamped with the seal l/ o-of the Association. When playing the Armory game (that is, on the

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large diamond with 45 foot base lines) the Spalding No. IX ball, fourteen (14) inches in circumference, shall be the official ball. RULE IV. THE BAT. The bat must be 234 feet long and not larger than 15/ inches in diameter in the largest part, and may have a rubber tip on the handle to prevent slipping. It must be made otherwise of wood, except that a metal rod may be passed through the centre to give desired weight, but under no circumstances is lead to be used in loading. The handle may be wound with string or tape. RULE V. THE PLAYERS. Is ~ Eight or nine players must constitute a side. The players' positions shall be such as shall be assigned them

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 73 by their captain, except that the pitcher must take his position within the pitcher's lines. When in position on the field, all players will be designated as "fielders" in these rules. RULE VI. THE PITCHER. The pitcher shall take his position facing the batter with both feet on the ground wholly within the box and with both feet on the rear line of said box, and when in the act of delivering the ball shall not take more than one step, but shall not be restricted as to curving the ball, although the arm must be swung parallel with the body. He shall hold the ball, before the delivery, fairly in front of his body and in sight of the umpire. He shall not make more than one step in the act of delivering the ball. He shall hold the ball before the delivery fairly in front of his body and in sight of the umpire. (a) Only straight-armed-pitching, in which the arm and hand swing parallel with the body, will be allowed, and the ball is not to be curved, the so-called upshoot being considered illegal. (b) By mutual agreement between opposing captains this rule may be changed to give the pitcher the option of heeling either with one or both feet the line drawn across the box eighteen (18) inches from the rear end of said box. Only straight-arm pitching, in which the arm and hand swing parallel with the body, will be allowed, and the ball is not to be curved, the so-called upshoot being considered illegal, and he shall not take more than one step in the act of delivering the ball, and shall hold the ball before the delivery fairly in front of his body and in sight of the umpire. (c) When the Armory game is played on a large diamond with 45 feet base

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lines and 30 feet pitching distance the pitcher can pitch under clause (b), but shall not be restricted as to curving.

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 79 RULE XVI. 'ai ~ NOT IN PLAY. In case of a foul strike, foul hit ball not legally caught out, dead ball, or base runner put out for being struck by a fair hit ball, the ball shall not be considered in play until it is held by the pitcher standing in his box. RULE XVII. BLOCK BALLS. A block is a batted or thrown ball that is stopped or handled by any person not engaged in the game. (a) Whenever a block occurs, base runners may run the bases without being put out, until the ball has been re- turned to and held by the pitcher standing in his box. (b) In the case of a block, if a person not engaged in the game should retain possession of the ball, or throw or kick it beyond the reach of the fielders, the umpire shall call "time," and require each base- runner to stop at the last base touched by him until the ball be returned to the pitcher standing in his box. (c) Special ground rules may be made allowing a certain number of bases on a fair hit into the crowd, in which case the above sections are void. RULE XVIII. THE SCORING OF RUNS. One run shall be scored every time a base-runner, after having legally touched the first three bases, shall touch the home /base before three men are put out. If the third man is forced out, or is put out before reaching first base, a run shall not be scored. RULE XIX. FAIR AND FOUL BALLS. (a) A batted ball which strikes inside or on the foul line is fair, the first point of contact with the floor, object or fielder deciding, regardless of where it afterward rolls.

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 81 (b) A batted ball first striking outside the foul line shall be foul. \ ~\ X RULE XX. \ STRIKES. (a) A strike is a ball struck at by the batsman without its touching his bat; or a foul tip caught. (b) A good ball, legally delivered by the pitcher, but not struck at by the batsman. (c) A good ball, legally delivered by the pitcher and intentionally interfered with by the batsman. RULE XXI. FOUL STRIKES. A foul strike is a ball batted by the batsman when any part of his person is upon ground outside the lines of the batsman's position. RULE XXII. THE BATSMAN IS OUT. (a) The batsman is out if he bats out of his turn and makes a fair hit before the error is discovered. (b) If he fails to take his position within one minute after the umpire has called for the batsman. (c) If he makes a foul hit and the ball be held by a fielder before touching the ground or any wall or fixture. (d) If he makes a foul strike. (e) If he attempts to hinder the catcher from fielding the ball, or fouls the ball intentionally, evidently without effort to make a fair hit. (f) If, while the first base be occupied by the base- runner, he has three strikes, except when two men are already out. (g) As per Rule XV. RULE XXIII. BASE-RUNNING. The batsman becomes a base-runner. (a) Instantly after he makes a fair hit.

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when the runner is entitled to all he can get. (e) If the pitcher does not give him time to return to his base. (f) If, upon a fair hit, the ball strikes the person or clothing of the umpire on fair grounds. (g) If he be prevented from making a base by the obstruction of an adversary. (h) If, when he was batsman, the pitcher delivered an "illegal ball."

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 85 RULE XXVI. WHEN TO START. (a) A base-runner must not leave his base when the pitcher holds the ball standing in his box (except to moisten the soles of his shoes by permission of the umpire). (b) A base-runner must not leave his base on a pitched ball not struck, until after it has reached or passed the catcher, on penalty of being called back. (c) A base-runner must be on his base when the pitcher is ready to deliver the ball to the batsman. (d) When the Armory game is played on a large diamond with 45 feet base lines, the base-runner must not leave his base on a pitched ball until after it has left the pitcher's hands, on penalty of being sent back. Starting too soon does not exempt a base runner from being put out on that particular play. The umpire must not make a decision in regard to a premature start until the base runner has reached the next base or is put out. RULE XXVII. RETURNING TO BASES. The base-runner shall return to his base, and shall be entitled to so return without being put out- (a) If the umpire declares a foul hit which is not legally caught by a fielder. (b) If the umpire declares a foul strike. (c) If the umpire declares a dead ball. (d) If the person or clothing of the umpire is struck by a ball thrown by the catcher to intercept a base-runner. (e) If he is called back by the umpire for starting too soon. RULE XXVIII. A BASE-RUNNER IS OUT. (a) If, having made a fair hit, while batsman. such fair hit ball be held by a fielder before touching the ground, K wall or any fixture.

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 87 (b) If he intentionally kicks or interferes with a ball he has just batted. If a ball he has just batted rebounds and hits him he shall not be declared out on that account. (c) If the third strike be caught before touching the ground or any object. (d) If, after three strikes or a fair hit, he be touched with the ball in the hands of a fielder before such base-runner touches first base. (e) If, after three strikes or a fair hit, the ball be securely held by a fielder while touching first base with any part of his person, before such base-runner touches first base. (f) If, in running

from first to second base, from second to third base, or from third to home base, he runs more than three feet from a direct line between such bases to avoid being touched by a ball in the hands of a fielder; but in case a fielder be occupying a base-runner's proper path, attempting to field a batted ball, then the base-runner shall run out of the path and shall not be declared out for so doing. (g) If he fails to avoid a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or if he in any way obstructs a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball. (h) If, at any time, while the ball is in play, he be touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder, unless some part of his person is touching a base he is entitled to occupy; provided, the ball be held by the fielder after touching him; but exception as to first base-in running to first base, he may overrun said base without being put out for being off said base, after first touching it, provided he returns at once and retouches the base, after which he may be put out as at any other base. If, in overrunning first base, he also attempt to run to second base, he shall forfeit such exemption from being put out.

SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 89 (i) If, when a fair or foul fly is legally caught, such ball is legally held by a fielder on the base occupied by the base-runner when such ball was struck, or the base-runner be touched with the ball in the hands of a fielder, before he retouches said base after such fair or foul hit ball was so caught. (j) If a fair hit ball strikes him before touching a fielder, and in such case no base shall be run unless forced by the batsman becoming a base-runner, and no run shall be scored. (k) If, when running to a base, he fail to touch the intervening base or bases in regular order, he may be put out at the base he fails to touch by a fielder holding the ball on said base, in the same manner as in running to first base. RULE XXIX. TURN EITHER WAY. In returning to first base, after over-running, the base-runner may turn either way. RULE XXX. SAFELY ON A BASE. A base-runner is safely on a base if he slides with the bag and clings to it; or, if any part of his person is touching the spot where the bag should be; or, he is safe if he has touched, the home base or where the base should be. If, in sliding with the bag at any base, he should stop, he must then return with the bag to the

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proper spot before starting for' another base, the same as in overrunning first base. RULE XXXI. COACHING RULES. The coaches are restricted in coaching to' base-runners only, and are not allowed to address any remarks except to base-runners, and then only in words of necessary di-

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 91 rection. They must not stand within three feet of the base or base lines. No coacher will be allowed up when the bases are un- occupied, and only one coacher when one base is occupied, and no more than two coaches when two or more bases are occupied. RULE XXXII. SUITABLE SHOES. Only shoes with rubber soles or other soft material shall be used. RULE XXXIII. PITCHER MUST WAIT. When a base-runner is legally entitled to return to a base, the pitcher must wait a reasonable time for him to reach the base, on penalty of giving the base-runner an- other base for violation. RULE XXXIV. UMPIRES. (a) The umpires are masters of the field from the com- mencement to the termination of the game, and are en- titled to the respect of the spectators, and any person off&r- ing any insult or injury to either of them must be promptly ejected from the room by those in charge. (b) The umpires must compel the players to observe the provisions of all the playing rules, and are hereby invested with authority to order any player to do or omit to do any act as they may deem necessary to give force and effect to any and all of such provisions. (c) There shall be two umpires, who shall take suitable: positions on the field for observing the plays which they are to judge. (d) No. 1 shall decide on and call all balls, strikes, blocks, dead balls, balks, illegal deliveries, fair and foul hits, ground hits, foul strikes, all questions arising at home

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 93 plate, and shall call play or time, and shall take a position behind the catcher. (e) No. 2 shall judge all base plays excepting those at home plate and shall take a position about ten feet back of the base

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line, midway between home and first or home and third bases, or where he can best view the play. (f) The umpires shall be sole judges of the play, and discussion will only be allowed on correct interpretation of the rules and not on any optional decision. All such discussions are restricted to the two captains. (g) The two umpires shall change positions at the end of every full inning. Umpires shall not be chosen from the two clubs contesting. (h) In case an umpire for some reason cannot decide a play, he shall refer to his colleague. The umpires shall ask the captain of the home team whether there are any special ground rules to be enforced, and if there are, they shall see that they are duly enforced, provided they do not conflict with any of these rules. (i) The umpires must keep the contesting nines playing constantly from the commencement of the game to its termination, allowing such delays only as are rendered unavoidable by accident or injury. The umpires must, until the completion of the game, require the players of each side to promptly take their positions in the field as soon as the third man is put out, and must require the first batter of the opposite side to be in his position at the bat as soon as the fielders are in their places. RULE XXXV. CALLING "PLAY" AND "TIME." (a) The umpire designated as No. 1 must call "play" promptly at the hour designated by the home club, and on the call of "play" the game must immediately begin. When he calls "time," play must be suspended until he calls "play" again, and during the interim no player shall

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 95 be put out, base be run or run be scored. The umpire shall suspend play only for an accident to himself or a player (but in case of accident to a fielder "time" shall not be called until the ball be returned to and held by the pitcher standing in his box). (by "Time" must not be called for trivial causes. The practice of players suspending the game to discuss or contest a decision with either umpire is a gross violation of the rules and the umpire must not allow it. (c) If a player wilfully disobeys the cautions of the umpires in regard to violations of the rules he may, at the discretion of the umpires, be ordered out of the game and his place be filled, if such decision reduce the side to less than eight players. RULE- SXXXV' -' . 'SCORING. In order

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to promote uniformity in scoring, the following suggestions and definitions are made for the benefit of scorers, and they are required to make all scores in accordance therewith.

SECTION I. The first item in the tabulated score, after the player's name and position, shall be the number of times he has been at bat during the game. No time at bat shall be scored if the batsman be given first base on called balls or on an illegal delivery of the ball by the pitcher. SEC. 2. In the second column shall be set down the number of hits made by each player. A hit should be scored in the following cases: When the ball from the bat strikes the ground within the foul lines and out of reach of the fielders. When a hit ball is partially or wholly stopped by a fielder in motion, but such player cannot recover himself in time to handle the ball before the striker reaches first base. When a ball is hit with such force to a fielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman.

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 97 When a ball is hit so slowly toward a fielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman. That in all cases where a base-runner is retired by being hit by a batted ball, the batsman should be credited with a hit. SEC. 3. In the third column should be set down the number of runs made by each player during the game. SEC. 4. In the fourth column shall be set down the number of opponents put out by each player. When a batsman is called out for a foul strike, or when he fails to bat in the proper order, the put-out shall be scored to the catcher. In all cases of out for interference or running out of line, the put-out shall be credited to the player who would have made the play, but for the action of the base-runner or batsman. SEC. 5. The number of times the player assists shall be set down in the fifth column. An assist shall be given to each player who handles the ball in assisting a put-out or other play of the kind. An assist should be given to the player who makes a play in time to put a runner out, even if the player who could complete the play fails through no fault of the player assisting. SEC. 6. An error should be given in the sixth column for each misplay which allows the batsman or base-runner to make one or more bases, when perfect play would have insured his being put out, except that "wild pitches," "bases on

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balls," or illegal pitched balls, balks or passed balls, all of which comprise battery errors, shall not be included in this column. An error shall not be scored against the catcher for a wild throw to prevent a stolen base, unless the base-runner advances an extra base because of the error. No error shall be scored against a fielder who attempts to complete a double play, unless the throw is so wild that an additional base-is gained.

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INDOOR BASE BALL FOR WOMEN

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locomotion which is considered unsafe by some of the best athletes among men. I object to it also for the same reason that batting the ball from the hands of an opponent has been abolished in the modified rules for basket ball, viz.:—that it introduces into the game —certain roughness entirely out of harmony with true sport. For psychological and physiological training and development the game offers many advantages. It is not as violent as basket ball, and for that reason it is a much safer sport for women. High exertion is required only at intervals, and is not continued long enough to be injurious to a player in normal physical condition. In this respect indoor base ball excels all other forms of school and college athletics. Foot ball and basket ball require such physical strength

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and endurance that they are prohibitive to all who are not above the normal physical development. Candidates for an outdoor base ball team must have skill acquired by years of practice, and should possess considerable endurance. All athletic games are open to young men who possess the requisite physical development and acquired skill, but the young women have not engaged to any extent in more than two athletic exercises, tennis and basket ball. Indoor base ball requires more and quicker exertion than tennis, brings into action more muscles of the body and permits eighteen players in a space equal to that required for four tennis players. There are nine positions to be filled, and each player must adapt herself to the place she occupies, and should, to a certain extent, possess peculiar qualifications for her part in the game. It is, therefore, possible to take a class of young women in which there is a variety of physical strength, size and mental traits, and from this class develop a team which will work together effectually and harmoniously. Coaches of women's basket ball players have experienced special difficulty in securing team work, and for facilitating this desirable feature of all athletics, they have added boundaries and modified the rules. The natural boundaries of a base ball diamond and the necessity of each player remaining in her own position are conducive to team work in all indoor teams. The results of indoor base ball for girls in the West Division High

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School, Chicago, have shown that it is successful in every way. Marked improvement in the physical condition of the players has resulted in every case. No one showed any of the effects resulting from over exertion. Girls bat well, and soon learn fielding. They throw easily overhanded and underhanded, and after a few weeks' practice develop considerable speed. The most difficult places to fill are usually the pitcher's and catcher's positions. Among several candidates, however, some one can be found possessing the requisite strength of arm and wrist for the pitcher's work. Such players may improve rapidly, and learn to pitch surprisingly swift balls. There are some natural catchers who receive the ball excellently, but it usually requires time to develop material for this position. Experienced players can learn to catch after a little practice unless they are afraid of the

bat. As a result of the experiments in our high school, we have concluded that indoor base ball can be learned by young women, and that the game is instructive, entertaining and highly beneficial. Steps have been taken toward the organization of a league of Chicago and Cook County high schools. There is no reason why it cannot be successful.

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HOW TO TEACH GIRLS TO PLAY INDOOR BASE BALL

HOW TO TEACH GIRLS TO PLAY INDOOR BASE BALL BY Jos. CERMAK, Gymnastic Instructor, J. Medill High School, Chicago, Ill. THE further we advance in teaching gymnastics the more we must recognize the importance of games in that branch of education called, "Physical Culture." Nay, we hear the voices of some of the most prominent physiologists and psychologists who claim that plays are the only ideal form of gymnastic exercises, whereby we can attain marvelous agility, strength, endurance, by which we cultivate self-control, self-reliance, those important faculties, which only enable us to be successful in our strenuous struggle for existence. Admitting all this, we naturally come to a question, what kind of games will bring us those satisfactory results ? Most decidedly those which the children like best-games which arouse pleasant feeling, which we play with joy, with enthusiasm-for such feeling alone is apt to stimulate the heart to a vigorous action and drive the blood and a new life through our whole system. And my long experience as a teacher of gymnastics convinced me that of all the games I have introduced, girls like indoor base ball the best. Fact is, that we shall find individual girls who do not like the game, but such girls are, as a rule, indifferent to any kind of game, to any kind of physical exercise. Everything is "too much like work" for them. But ninety per cent. of our girls, as soon as they learn the simple rudiments of base ball, play it with the same enthusiasm at the end of school year as at the beginning. It is a game which is developing all our bodily powers, a game in which mind must be just as quick as our body, is void of all danger of injury or strain, is a purely American game, and those are the

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chief reasons for which I have introduced it in our girls' classes, and, allow me to add, with success. The main problem a teacher encounters in introducing base ball in

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girls' classes is how much to teach it, so as not to waste the valuable time allotted to gymnastic exercises, and also, be very careful that the girls do not get tired of the game before they learn it. Trying to explain all the points of the game at once will only bewilder girls, and they would immediately come to conclusion that they can never learn it. They come to the gymnasium for physical exercise and mental rest, and we must tax their memory as little as possible. Best thing is to take a little resort to strategy, follow a simple rule of pedagogy, so to speak, teach the game by degrees and make them believe that they play "the real thing" in the first hour. It is easy to give them only a rough outline of the game and start. They can play without knowing anything about "balls" and "strikes," without knowing what "stealing a base," a "forced run," a "double play" mean. "Hit and run" and "try to get home without being tagged" is about all what the "ins" need to know, and "catch the ball and tag the runner" is all what the "outs" need to know. But, of course, the main part of the game, when you have a class of beginners, is played by the instructor. He himself must be a good player, and in order to make the game lively for the beginners, he takes a position in the pitchers' box. Then he lets the batter hit the ball, at the same time giving quick and short directions to the "outs" what to do. He must pitch the ball so that the girl cannot help making a good hit, and if the "outs" are rather slow in getting the ball, he must do it himself, thus giving them an example "how to do it next time." In fact, a teacher must play a main part of the game himself with such a class, otherwise the "ins" would have an easy time in making runs, and you would have a listless, disinteresting game, and the time devoted to games would be wasted. It is not necessary to add that a teacher must play as a pitcher for both sides. In the meantime, while the play goes on, point after point comes up, which the teacher always explains, thus adding more and more interest to the game. Hard work for the instructor? It is, - but when you see the girls returning to their rooms with sparkling eyes and flushed cheeks, full of new life, full of

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mirth, full of healthy excitement, when you see those beautiful roses in their cheeks, you must feel that you have been sufficiently rewarded for your hard work.- - -

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SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. I 13 But that is not all. Pitching and playing for both sides is all right as far as it goes, but the more the girls know about the game. the more anxious they are to play it as it should be played, and, of course, with their own pitcher. And "there is a rub." You cannot have a good lively game if you have not a good pitcher in the box. How to find a girl who can play this important position? How to select a catcher, short-stops, basemen, fielders? It takes a little time, but by close observation of players you can in a short time divide the class into two regular teams and "line them up" according to the best abilities of different players. There are always short intermissions during the game and those afford a teacher an excellent opportunity to look for "talent." Standing in the pitcher's box, throw the ball to those who happen to be idle, and you by chance discover a good catcher, good baseman, or a good fielder. Ask the girls to send the ball back to you as fast as they can, "under-hand," or "overhand," and you easily discover the "coming pitcher." And before the school year is over you have a class divided in two teams, lined up and ready to play a lively game of base-ball whenever called upon. At the Medill High School almost every class of girls from the second year up is divided in two teams-sometimes, of course, with more fielders than is necessary--but the main object (after a regular lesson in gymnastics) to give them a good, interesting, lively game is obtained, and if they play only three innings, they get enough exercise out of it, while some classes become such experts in the game that very often they play five and even seven innings in 15 to 20 minutes. There are, however, some objectionable features in the game which must be eliminated if we wish to introduce it in the girls classes. All kinds of "sliding," "blocking," "tripping," and all such "smart tricks" must be left out. Playing "such a ball" might perhaps help to win a game, but such game will not make our girls more refined, more gentle. As the girls in our high schools and colleges take more and more interest in indoor base ball, it would, be well to modify the rules by proper authorities,

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as was done in t-ihebasket-ball. But care should)be taken so as not to sacrifice all the interesting and scientific features of the game to the desire of " modification."

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